

## 10 THINGS TO DO AFTER A BIKE CRASH

Bicycle Crashes are NOT Accidents (usually a driver is not paying attention)

1. Remember to always ride with phone, ID & this list of what to do after a crash. Have an emergency contact number(s) memorized in case your phone doesn't work post-crash.
2. Call 911 and require a police crash report. Yes, they are now called "Traffic Crash Reports." Do not leave the scene of a crash without notifying the police. If you leave the crash scene without reporting it to the police that is a traffic offense, and you can be cited with a traffic violation. If the police arrive and do not want to write up a crash report, insist that they properly document the crash.
3. Immediately seek medical attention and take an ambulance if given the opportunity. In many cases, you are in shock after the crash, disoriented, and might not feel that you need medical attention. It is always a good idea to seek medical attention as soon as you can, especially if you have a concussion or other serious injury. Your health, the health of others, and everyone's safety is the utmost concern so consider that first and then the steps below.
4. Get the business card of investigating police officer (with the phone number and email) and get the police report case number as well. Although we can usually get the case number at a later time, it speeds up the process in getting the crash report, police body camera video, witness statements, 911 recordings, and scene photos when you have the case number or an exchange of information card.
5. Obtain the names, phone numbers and contact information of all witnesses or have them text or email you their contact information. Many times, the police do not get the names of all the witnesses.
6. Take photos/videos of the scene, your bike & your injuries, or have a witness do so. Have them text you or email them to you as soon as they can after the crash.
7. Collect full insurance information from the careless driver, take a picture of the driver's auto insurance and driver's license if you can. Do NOT negotiate with, the driver at the scene of the crash. Many times, drivers have offered past clients money or a new bike so that they would not contact the police or call 911.
8. Leave your bike, helmet and gear in their post-crash state. Do not throw away any items from the crash even if they are broken or blood-stained. This is evidence of the crash and take photos of your property and injuries when you have time.
9. Do NOT post about the crash on social media. If you must, please only share facts not anything about your injuries or how you are feeling. Insurance companies search social

media feeds and will try and use information against an injured people who might be trying not to make others worry or not yet sure of the extent of injuries.

10. Contact Bike Law Colorado by phone 303-741-0249 or use the contact box on this website **before** talking to insurance companies. We will help guide you through the next steps for your case. Insurance companies will want to take your recorded statement before you may be ready. We advise against giving recorded statements without getting legal advice first.